

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/822,634	IHALAINEN, PEKKA	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Krystyna Suchecki	2882	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Preliminary Amendment filed 08/23/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>08/23/04</u> 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
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DETAILED ACTION

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Daniel Fetterley on 06/14/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification, on page 2, at line 4, delete "the present" and insert therein --that--.

In the specification, on page 4, at line 37, after 'FIG.' insert --6--.

In the specification, on page 6, at line 15, delete "resp.".

In the specification, on page 6, at line 16, after 'sensor,' insert --respectively,--.

In Claim 1, at line 11, delete "configuration" and insert therein --cross-section--.

In Claim 2, at line 1, delete "configuration" and insert therein --cross-section--.

In Claim 4, at line 1, delete "configuration" and insert therein --cross-section--.

In Claim 6, at line 1, delete "configuration" and insert therein --cross-section--.

Drawings

3. New corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in this application because the lines and numbers for Figures 1-6 are not uniformly thick and well defined, clean and durable (see also 37 CFR 1.84(l)) and the numbers and reference characters are not plain and legible (see also 37 CFR 1.84(p)). Applicant is advised to employ the services of a competent patent draftsman outside the Office, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

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no longer prepares new drawings. The corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The requirement for corrected drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-18 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claim 1 contains allowable subject matter for at least the reason that the prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest an arrangement for connecting a dental X-ray imaging sensor to a holder the sensor being a flat piece with a length and a width, a radiation sensitive area extending along said length and width, and a peg projecting from said flat piece in a direction perpendicular to said length and width, said peg provided with a widened outer end and a neck between said outer end and said flat piece, said neck having a cross-section with a plurality of alternate larger diameters and smaller diameters; and a fork with a gap at said first end of the holder, said gap being adapted to fit onto said neck at least in two different positions, an interaction between said fork and said larger and smaller diameters of the neck prohibiting unintended pivot of said sensor in respect to the holder as claimed.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Patent to Angotti (US 5,090,047) is of interest for teaching peg arrangements for adjusting the placement of an imaging plane (Figure 4). Tanaka (US 4,949,370) is of interest for teaching peg arrangements for aligning dental imaging apparatus, including pegs along a forked holder (Figures 5, 8 and 26). Vlock (US 2,392,109) is of interest for teaching a fork apparatus for indicating an imaging plane of interest (Figure 7). Heckel (US 1,706,117) is of interest for teaching a forked member (5) accepting a variable diameter (along a longitudinal axis) portion (6). Heckel fails to teach a means to prohibit unintended pivoting. Raper (US 1,548,171) is of interest for teaching a forked member cooperating with an imaging plane holder. An adjustable pin secures the imaging plane, but no pin interacts with the forked member (Figure 3). Shaw (US 1,453,194) is of interest for teaching a dental image plane with an associated peg. The peg interacts with a hole in a holder, but is not prohibited from pivoting (Figure 3).

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Krystyna Suchecki whose telephone number is (571) 272-2495. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9-5.

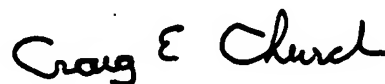
9. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Glick can be reached on (571) 272-2490. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

10. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

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applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


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Craig E. Church
Primary Examiner